

**RESOLUTION ON THE DEMOCRATIZATION  
PROCESS IN AFRICA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Fifty-ninth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 31 January to 4 February, 1994,

**Recalling** the provisions of the Charter of the OAU,

**Bearing in mind** the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

**Mindful** of the provisions of the Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity of 11th July, 1990 on the political and socio-economic situation in Africa and the fundamental changes taking place in the world,

**Aware** of the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and **reaffirming** the validity and relevance of the Lagos Plan of Action,

**Taking into consideration** the Declaration of 28-30 June 1993 of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU on the establishment within the OAU of a Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution,

**Cognizant** of the fact that the majority of OAU Member States have embarked on painful economic reforms and further democratization of their societies and institutions and of the fact that a large number of them continue to face formidable challenges of economic development and democratic transformation because of the deterioration of their economic situation or counter-productive lack of understanding of each country's individual circumstances by some members of the Developed Countries and international financial institutions,

**Reaffirming** that peace and stability as well as our individual and collective economic developments are critical prerequisites in the furtherance of democratization of our respective countries,

**Aware** of the role of the International Community and its efforts to contribute to the development of Africa and its democratization process as well as in the resolution of conflicts in our Continent:

1. **REAFFIRMS** the validity, relevance and our commitment to fulfill the provisions of the above-mentioned Charter, Treaties, Declarations and Resolutions as referred to in the preambular part of this Declaration;
2. **REAFFIRMS FURTHER** the sovereign right of our countries to determine for ourselves an appropriate system of democracy on the basis of the socio-cultural values of our respective countries;

3. **STRESSES** that peace, political stability and economic development as well as the respect for Human Rights are necessary conditions for further democratization;
4. **UNDERScores** that in order to sustain the pace of positive economic reforms and further democratization in Africa, enabling conditions of peace and stability must prevail;
5. **STRESSES FURTHER** that the process of democratic transition and economic transformation of our countries should evolve in an orderly manner in order to avoid the rupture of the socio-cultural fabric of African societies;
6. **CALLS UPON** our Member States individually and collectively to continue to implement positive economic reform policies and to support orderly democratic transition;
7. **URGES** the International Community in general and Creditor Countries and Institutions in particular to support African countries and the OAU in their efforts towards further democratization, conflict resolution and economic transformation within a broad framework of mutually agreed upon policies;
8. **APPEALS** to the International Community to refrain from taking any measures or punitive conditionalities which would have adverse and counter productive effects on African Countries engaged in genuine efforts at democratizing their societies and institutions;
9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General of the OAU to continue to follow up matters relating to the implementation of this resolution.